

TOWN OF GRAFTON

GRAFTON MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER 30 PROVIDENCE ROAD GRAFTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01519 (508) 839-5335

www.grafton-ma.gov

Policy Regarding Electioneering During Early Voting and Absentee Voting for All Elections

WHEREAS: Chapter 54, Section 65 of the General Laws of Massachusetts prohibits "electioneering" (the display or distribution of material intended to influence the actions of voters) at or within 150 feet of the entrance of polling places at an election of federal, state or local officers;

WHEREAS: An increasing percentage of Grafton voters are taking advantage of their right and opportunity to vote in-person by absentee ballot or during the Early Voting Period established by the Legislature, and come to the Town offices at 30 Providence Road in order to obtain absentee ballots or cast early ballots;

WHEREAS: Such voters should be given the same right and opportunity to cast or obtain ballots free of electioneering activity as is enjoyed by voters who cast their vote on the day of the election;

WHEREAS: Observance of the 150-foot rule established by Chapter 54, Section 65 at the Town offices during in-person absentee voting or the Early Voting Period would not unduly restrict the ability of any person to display or distribute campaign messages to perspective voters approaching the Town offices; and

WHEREAS: The Town Administrator has the care, custody and control of the Town offices at 30 Providence Road and the surrounding sidewalks, and may regulate activity thereon;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Select Board adopts the following regulation for the period designated for inperson absentee voting and the State's Early Voting Period: No poster, card, handbill, placard, picture or circular intended to influence the action of the voter, other than those expressly authorized by G.L. c. 54, § 65, shall be posted, exhibited, circulated or distributed in the Town Clerk's office, in the building where the Town Clerk's office is located, on the walls thereof, on the premises on which the Town offices at 30 Providence Road stand, or within one hundred and fifty feet (150') of the building entrance door to said Town offices & Gymnasium entrances. All candidates and their representatives must observe the 150-foot rule established by Chapter 54, Section 65 of the General Laws of Massachusetts. Given under our hands this 14 day of December 2021.

SELECT BOARD, GRAFTON

Peter Carlson, Chair

Colleen Roy, Vice-Chair

Mathew Often, Clerk

Raymond Mead